DECLASSIFIED EXCISE

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81 SAN SALVADOR 3009
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ACTION OCS-06
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
SSO-00 SY-05 FA-06 PA-01 DOT-02 INRE-00 OA-01
SYE-00 FBIE-00 SPES-02 /049 W
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C 2123492 APR 81
FM AMEMBAS Y SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3449
C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3009
E.O. 12065: GDS 4/21/87 (DION, MARK) OR-M
TAGS: CASC
SUBJECT: JOHN SULLIVAN: CHARGE SPEAKS WITH DEFENSE MINISTER GARCIA

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. DURING CHARGE'S MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER GUILLERMO GARCIA AFTERNOON OF APRIL 21, ONE TOPIC DISCUSSED WAS LATEST LEADS TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST JOHN SULLIVAN. CONSUL LASBURY TODAY RECEIVED A MAP SKETCHING OUT AN AREA NEAR THE GUAZAPA VOLCANO WHERE [redacted] ALLEGEDLY SAW SOMEONE RESEMBLING JOHN SULLIVAN IN THE COMPANY OF A GROUP OF GUERRILLAS NOT LONG AGO. THE WOMAN SPOKE BRIEFLY WITH A TALL BEARDED "GRINGO" WHOSE ACCENT, DRESS AND BEARING SUGGESTED TO HER THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN. LATER, SHE SAW SULLIVAN'S PHOTOGRAPH IN A SAN SALVADOR NEWSPAPER AND BELIEVES HE IS THE MAN SHE SAW NEAR THE TOWN OF GUAZAPA. SHE PASSED ON THIS INFORMATION TO [redacted] WHO MADE A DETAILED SKETCH OF THE AREA AND PASSED IT ALONG TO OUR CONSUL TODAY. (b)(1) · (a)(9) (b)(6)
3. COL. GARCIA WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF THIS INFORMATION AND PROMISED TO BE IN TOUCH IMMEDIATELY WITH THE MAN WHO
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PROVIDED THE INFORMATION. THE MAN HAD TOLD OUR CONSUL THAT HE WOULD COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE ARMED FORCES IN HELPING THEMATO SEARCH THE AREA FOR SULLIVAN.
4. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST REAL LEAD WE HAVE HAD IN THE SULLIVAN CASE AND WHILE IT MAY PROVE ILLUSORY WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE SALVADORAN MILITARY CHECK OUT THE AREA THOROUGHLY. A SEE-SAW BATTLE FOR GUAZAPA VOLCANO HAS GONE ON FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE ENTRENCHED GUERRILLAS. THE ARMED FORCES ARE NOW IN CONTROL OF MOST OF THE AREA. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SULLIVAN DID ATTEMPT TO CONTACT THE GUERRILLAS SOON AFTER ARRIVING HERE AND THERE IS SOME CHANCE THAT HE JOINED THEM BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT HE WOULD HAVE LEFT HIS FAMILY IN SUCH TURMOIL FOR SO LONG WILLINGLY. WE WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS CASE ASAP BUT IT
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 11/29/83
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. ____ REASON(S) ____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐ in part (b)(1) (a)(9) (b)(6)
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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PROBABLY SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED AS YET WITH THE SULLIVAN FAMILY.
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